

REMARKS

Claims 47-66 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the remarks contained herein. Applicants note that Claim 53 does not currently stand rejected and is not indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 47-52 and 54-66 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Duong et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2005/0049593). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants submit herewith a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 that establishes conception and reduction to practice of the claimed invention prior to September 3, 2003—the effective filing date of Duong. Therefore, Duong can no longer be considered a valid prior-art reference to the presently pending claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 47-52 and 54-66 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and

favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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